

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) applauded the appointment of Ms. Rayne Pegg of California as the United States Department of Food and Agriculture's new Administrator of Agricultural Marketing Service. Pegg is currently the deputy secretary of Legislation and Policy for the California Secretary of Food and Agriculture. She will begin her service in July.

"Rayne is the perfect candidate to head up our nation's Agriculture Marketing Service," said Costa. "California leads the nation in fruit, vegetable, nut and dairy production, so it makes sense to have someone with the experience and knowledge of a variety of farm products to head up this division within USDA. I am happy for Rayne and look forward to working with her over the next few years."

Costa and a number of his colleagues wrote a letter of recommendation to Secretary Vilsack on behalf of Pegg. They stated that Pegg's work and experience with farmers, ranchers and agriculture cooperatives would greatly benefit our nation's agriculture stay competitive in a global marketplace.